**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH**
**ABSTRACT**

Water Resources Department – APSIDC, Regd. office - Social Engineering Cell - Handing over of Commissioned LI schemes to the Beneficiary Committees/Societies Registered under various Acts - Policy decision to bring all the Committees under the purview of APFMIS Act 1997 – Orders - Issued .

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**WATER RESOURCES(CADA)DEPARTMENT**

**G.O.MS.No. 82** **Dated: 26-07-2018**

**Read the following:-**

1. From the Joint Managing Director, APSIDC, Hderabad, Lr.No.IDC/ JMD/ SGP/SE Cell/ Registrations/ 2016-17/1056, dt.30.06.2016.
2. From the Commissioner, CADA, Vijayawada. Lr.No.COM/CAD/EE/ DSO/APSIDC/ LI Schemes, dt.24.09.2016.

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**ORDER:**

Andhra Pradesh is a pioneer State in implementation of Participatory Irrigation Management(PIM) which has the special characteristics of involving the stakeholders (i.e., farmers) in the management of Irrigation Systems. In this direction the Government enacted a comprehensive Act during 1997 namely APFMIS Act 1997.

2. The basic objective of PIM is to actively involve the farmers in efficient management of water distribution in the Irrigation Systems by ensuring equitable distribution so that water reaches the tail end ayacut, bridging the gap ayacut between the IP created and IP realized, conjunctive use of ground water, promote a sense of belongingness to farmers on the Irrigation Systems, improve agriculture production and productivity, water conservation etc.,

3. During the course of implementation of this programme, several amendments were also brought out in order to strengthen the WUAs in the State. Further the Government in G.O.Ms.No.198, Water Resources(CAD) Department, dated:06.11.2015 constituted an Expert Committee (i) to study the implementation of the Act (ii) to take up field study and performance of WUAs and maintenance of water bodies in Andhra Pradesh and other States and (iii) to recommend any changes required in the Act for strengthening of WUAs in the State. Accordingly, the Committee visited various States in the Country and submitted its recommendations to the Government. Government accepted the recommendations of the Committee and brought out certain amendments to the Act during 2017 and these are notified as Act No.4 of 2018.

4. Section 2 (p) of APFMIS Act covers the Major, Medium and Minor Irrigation Systems for harnessing water for Irrigation and other allied uses from Government/ or Corporation source and includes reservoirs, open head channels, diversion systems, anicuts, LI Schemes, tanks, wells and the like.

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5. In this context the Government reviewed the working of the LI Schemes in APSIDC. It has been brought to the notice of the Government that the LI Schemes executed by APSIDC have been handed over to the farmers for maintenance by concluding agreement with the beneficiary committees. While there are 120 schemes managed by WUAs formed under APFMIS Act, the rest of the Schemes numbering 1,093 Schemes are under the committees formed under various Acts like AP Co-Operative Societies Act 1964, APMACS Act, Society Registration Act, Adhoc Committees etc.

6. It is also noticed that some of the Committees were formed prior to the enactment of APFMIS Act 1997. In this connection, it is relevant to note that the APFMIS Act with its latest amendments facilitates formation of Managing Committees of WUAs by simplified election procedures, fixed tenure of 5 years for the managing committees, active assistance from the department by appointing competent authority, better accountability to all the concerned etc. At present there is multiplicity of registrations in some of the L.I. Schemes leading to disputes and complications under the present heterogeneous set up of managing committees. Under APFIMS Act 1997 there will be a homogenous setup which is a very healthy administrative setup. If all the existing beneficiary committees of the L.I. Schemes APSIDC are brought under the purview of APFMIS Act, there will be uniformity in the composition of the committees, better administrative and functional convenience to both the APSIDC and the farmers, larger and effective representation of the beneficiary farmers from both head and tail reaches of the command in the managing committees and effective monitoring of these schemes by the APSIDC, which is the absolute owner of these Schemes.

7. In the circumstances reported by the Joint Managing Director, APSIDC and as recommended by the Commissioner, CADA, Water Resources Department vide references 1st and 2nd read above, Government after careful consideration hereby direct the Joint Managing Director, APSIDC to implement APFMIS Act to all the L.I. Schemes of APSIDC uniformly, subject to the Joint Managing Director, APSIDC shall take the following steps:-

1) Identify the all the existing L.I. Schemes which are under the management of beneficiary committees other than those formed under APFMIS Act.

2) Redelineate the water user area under Section 3 of the Act and get them notified by the District Collector concerned.

3) Identify the competent authorities for the said schemes and submit proposal to the Government under Section 21(1) for issuing necessary notification.

4) Work out the modalities for smooth changeover of the management from different Societies to the Deputy Executive Engineers under section 34 of APFMIS Act till such time such WUAs duly constituted and such managing committee assumes office, rules to be framed to meet the requirement of the LI Schemes, water tax to be collected etc.

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8. The Joint Managing Director, APSIDC, Vijayawada shall take further necessary action accordingly.

9. This order issues with the concurrence of Finance (W.R.I) Department vide their U.O.No.47027/78/(FMU WRD I)/2017, dated:07.03.2017.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

**SHASHI BHUSHAN KUAMR**
**SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT**

To
The Joint Managing Director, APSIDC ,Vijayawada.
The Commissioner, CADA, Vijayawada.
Copy to
The Accountant General, A.P., Hyderabad.
The Director of Works Accounts, Ibrahimpatnam, Vijayawada.
The Law Department.
The Finance (FMU-W.R.I) Department.
PS to Principal Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister.
The PS to Hon'ble Minister, Water Resources Department.
PS to the Secretary, Water Resources Department.
Sf/Sc.

**//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//**

**SECTION OFFICER**